

SECRET CONTROL

28 April 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Albanian Plan -- Meeting between Abdyl Sula and State Department and OSO Representatives

The following information was obtained through unofficial channels by the writer and, therefore, should not be discussed with personnel outside of OPC.

In September 1947, Abdyl Sula, King Zog's minister in Egypt, met in Washington with representatives of the State Department and OSO. The OSO representatives attended this meeting in order to ascertain the possibilities of exploiting Albanian IS under Zog in Cairo, the Middle East, and Italy. Sula was interested in enlisting support for the Government-in-exile as follows:

(1) Official recognition of the Government-in-exile or, as an alternative, unofficial recognition through some American representative attached to the Government-in-exile under some sort of cover.

(2) Financial support for the Government-in-exile.

In answer to questions pertaining to what Zog's followers were capable of performing along intelligence lines, Sula outlined their potential activities as follows:

(1) Propaganda

(2) Sabotage in Albania

(3) Collection of information in Albania and Yugoslavia.

(4) A group of twelve Albanian officers (trained paratroopers) in Turkey which could be dropped into Albania.

OSO ascertained that

(1) This arrangement offered no real intelligence service.

(2) There were no sources inside Albania

(3) No facilities for crossing the Greek-Albanian border.

(4) Sula and his group had no knowledge of intelligence methods and very little experience.

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According to the OSO report, Zog's organization had relations with Royalist Jugs and the Macek Group. They also had some vague connection with Bulgarian and Rumanian groups.

The OSO people felt that the security of this Zogist group was very poor and its ability was questionable and, therefore, did not offer any encouragement to Sula. Furthermore, Sula received no encouragement from the Department of State.

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